



# Regional News Release

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## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER – DECEMBER 2013 UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.14 billion pounds in December, up 3 percent from the 4.00 billion pounds produced in December 2012.

**Beef production**, at 2.05 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, up 1 percent from December 2012. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,333 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 9.8 million pounds, 1 percent above December a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66,500 head, up 2 percent from December 2012. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from last year, at 252 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.07 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.74 million head, up 3 percent from December 2012. The average live weight was up 7 pounds from the previous year, at 283 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.2 million pounds, was up 3 percent from December 2012. Sheep slaughter totaled 202,500 head, 7 percent above last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, down 5 pounds from December a year ago.

**January to December 2013 commercial red meat production** was 49.2 billion pounds, down 1 percent from 2012. Accumulated beef production was down 1 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was down slightly from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down slightly.

For a full copy of the January 2014 *Livestock Slaughter* report please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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Mountain Regional Office includes Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming.

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